



# Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

For immediate release: April 24, 2012 (12-07)  
Contact: Mike Louisell (360) 902-1813

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, Washington 98504-2560  
Visit our Web site at: [agr.wa.gov](http://agr.wa.gov)

## **Free waste pesticide disposal event to be held near Longview in June**

*Contact WSDA by May 2 to sign-up*

**OLYMPIA** – The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), in cooperation with Cowlitz County Public Works and the [Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership](#), is sponsoring a free pesticide disposal event at a site near Longview on June 20. Interested persons need to contact WSDA by May 2 to sign-up.

WSDA encourages farms, businesses, residents and landowners to inspect their storage sheds, barns, shops and garages. The agency will accept any agricultural and commercial-grade pesticides that are no longer needed or wanted. This project's focus is for properties located in the lower Columbia River watershed.

"People want to do the right thing to protect their local environment and prevent chemicals from contaminating groundwater, streams and rivers," said WSDA's Joe Hoffman. "Proper pesticide disposal helps keep our land and water clean, saves money by preventing expensive cleanup projects and protects public health."

Products accepted for disposal include insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides and most chemicals that kill, repel or prevent unwanted pests. Customers transport unwanted pesticides to the collection site where WSDA takes possession and relieves the customer of any further liability. A hazardous waste company works with WSDA to segregate and package the pesticides for safe, legal transportation and disposal.

Due to limited funding and regulatory requirements, disposal must be pre-arranged and "drop-ins" are not possible. Call (360) 902-2056 or e-mail [wastepesticide@agr.wa.gov](mailto:wastepesticide@agr.wa.gov) to reserve your spot at the June collection.

Customers will receive the supplies necessary to protect broken or leaky containers to ensure safe transportation to the collection site, as well as directions to the site, hours of operation and transportation documents. Customer names do not appear on any retained documents. Upon request, WSDA will provide free assistance at a customer's property to help inventory unwanted pesticides and package leaky containers.

WSDA does not accept empty pesticide containers, fertilizers, motor oil and household hazardous waste. Contact your local solid waste program for assistance with these other items.

Last year, WSDA collected over 153,000 pounds of unwanted pesticides across the state. Through its disposal events, WSDA has collected and properly disposed of nearly 2.7 million pounds of waste pesticides.

For more information, visit the WSDA [Waste Pesticide Program](#) website.

###

WSDA is on [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)